



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
**Department of Agricultural Resources**  
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IAN BOWLES  
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TIMOTHY P. MURRAY  
Lieutenant Governor

SCOTT J. SOARES  
Acting Commissioner

To: Interested Parties  
From : Scott J. Soares, Acting Commissioner  
Date: February 9, 2007

**RE: PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM MASSACHUSETTS DAIRY FARMERS  
PURSUANT TO M.G.L. c. 94A, SECTION 12**

The Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources ("Commissioner") has received a Petition for Relief pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 94A, Section 12 (M.G.L. c. 94A, Sec. 12; "Petition for Relief") dated January 29, 2007, from the Massachusetts Association of Dairy Farmers, Inc. on behalf of Massachusetts licensed dairy farmers. Said petition sets forth Facts and Statutory Allegations in support of a Request for Relief. The request for relief asks, in part, that a public hearing be convened by the Commissioner to address questions regarding a claimed emergency in the Massachusetts dairy industry and to issue appropriate orders regarding minimum prices and a system of payments for dairy producers.

In accordance with requirements established in M.G.L. c. 94A, Sec. 12, as well as sections 10 and 11 of said chapter, the Commissioner of the Department of Agricultural Resources will commence an examination and investigation regarding the Petition for Relief. The Commissioner also intends to convene a public hearing or hearings, the dates, times and places of which the Commissioner intends to announce in the near future and at which the Commissioner or his designee will accept testimony regarding the Petition for Relief.

Interested parties may view the Petition for Relief on line at <http://mass.gov/agr/dairy/petition.htm> or may request a copy thereof by sending a request to Dairy Relief Petition, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114 or by sending an electronic mail message to [dairyreliefpetition@state.ma.us](mailto:dairyreliefpetition@state.ma.us).